

would not say that Government bonds were a bad investment, but with nobody to buy them they were really no security.

He related a conversation that took place between himself and a financier whose name was on the list, about gold in Japan. It had been tried and proved a failure. In this connection the payment for the Japanese immigrants, it was proposed to bring here, was to be in gold. He did not want to see the Japanese get gold and the white men paper. (Loud cheers and applause.)

He related an amusing story of having once been connected with a banking concern many years ago (in his schooldays). The currency was pins, for which three of the boys issued notes. When they got all the pins they could, they stopped payment, closed the doors and divided the "swag." He compared this to a bank of issue in Honolulu.

He compared the demands of the present bill to those of a burglar who, finding he could not accomplish the task of clearing the house of all its contents, he decides to be content with a silver spoon. He would not even give these monopolists a silver spoon.

He predicted there would be a shoal of amendments brought in, but in his opinion the bill ought to be rejected in toto. There were gentlemen's names on the bill whom they all knew, and he would like to see those names taken off.

In conclusion he made a quotation from the Psalms of David, and took his seat amidst loud applause.

Mr. Clarence Ashford was next called upon by the Chairman. He said it was exceedingly gratifying to the Committee who had convened the meeting to see such a large gathering, all of whom were desirous of casting off the chains of monopoly. During his brief residence in Honolulu he had reason to lament the general apathy of the public in matters that pertained to their immediate welfare. There was no "snap" so to speak. They submit to be trodden upon. If they did anything, it was only growling. As long as they only growled there was no harm done. But something had at last occurred to touch the popular heart. He fully endorsed what had been said by the previous speakers, but the general remarks thus far had been of a purely political and economical nature.

He related in strong terms what would result from the passage of the Bank Charter Bill. The monopolists were residents of California with a few local partners "sufficient to give a sugar coating to the pill to be swallowed—but that pill was altogether too large, and the coating "too thin." (Loud applause.)

The local gentlemen were all respectable men in the past, and he wished there was evidence of their having withdrawn, as the scheme had been proven to be a nefarious plot. They say, "You misjudge our motives," but with one hand on your throat and another in your pocket, there was no time to ask what their motives were. The circumstances were exceedingly suspicious, and so they were justified in shaking off the incubus that threatened them to-night. (Applause.)

The speaker then referred in highly complimentary terms to the sound opinion offered the Chamber of Commerce by Mr. E. Preston. He said that as a lawyer, Mr. Preston stood in the front rank, and his opinion in a matter of this kind is second to none in the kingdom. For the past year his position had been non-partisan, and such as to inspire confidence in the accuracy of his opinion on the Bank Charter Bill.

He compared monopoly to the homeopathic and allopathic doctrines of medicine. It commences in small doses, until they finally become disagreeably large. It was conceded on all hands that this bill would be a great detriment to the country if it became law, and they knew who they had to deal with. The projectors were determined to put it through. They did not carry their arguments in their heads, but in canvas bags, and they all knew the result when the contents of these bags were spread before legislators, such as some of our legislators are. On the other hand, they knew that they also had legislators that no money could buy. It was not law, however, until the King signed it. * * * He submitted that they would be existing at the sufferance of a monopoly; if the bill passed there would be slavery on these fair Isles equally as bad as the slavery that once existed in the Southern States. It would be a slavery of intelligence. His advice was, to treat with these men (the projectors of the Bank Charter) as if they were treating with the most veritable scoundrels on earth.

He asked "Now, what is to be done about it?" Only this: there must be such a determined resistance to its becoming law that the very idea of it ever passing will have to be abandoned. It is nauseating in the extreme. But what are you to do? There must be something done besides talking. If they desired to avoid the menace that is now held over their heads, each one must be prepared to protect his freedom at any cost and at all hazards. There must be no half measures. Everyone must show a determination to defend his rights.

In conclusion, he said that this community was an intelligent one, and knew what their rights were, and they dared to maintain them.

His final rabid remarks were received with loud demonstrations of approval. There was loud cheering and continued applause inside and outside the building.

Mr. R. More here presented several resolutions, which were temporarily laid on the table.

There were loud calls for Mr. Kalua, but that gentleman not being present, Mr. J. Nawahi responded to the calls. He addressed the audience in Hawaiian, Mr. Wm. Halstead acting as interpreter.

He spoke to the following effect: If we want gold we can have gold this night. He believed everyone who wanted gold would get it as he is doing now, and if intruders come in to the country to deprive them of that gold, they should be tied up. If they wanted peace and amity they must pass a law to prevent these adventurers so doing. In conclusion, he hoped that King David Kalakaua would emulate the David of old. He hoped that all would assist in preventing the trouble that was about to come.

Cries for Mr. Pilipo brought the member of North Kona to the front. He thanked the audience for the honor they had done him. He believed that one and all had come into that house in regard to their personal rights, the rights of the Government and of their property. There is a certain power being brought into this country to accomplish a certain object, and that is to crush them when they have the power. They should all try to prevent this from ever happening. He felt gratified that so many foreigners had taken this matter in hand, to support the Throne and keep the country out of trouble. If the Bank Charter should happen to pass, they would all be brought into trouble, even the throne itself. If it passed, it would be by money being put into the pockets of representatives.

Mr. Hitchcock said in response to a call that he was there to hear others speak. As a representative he felt that he was backed by men of intelligence. He knew that some of the representatives cannot be bought. Even Spreckels had not enough money to buy them. He considered it of no use to amend the bill; it would only make it worse. He had always been an anti-monopolist. Monopoly was no good in this small country. He was glad to state that he had been the recipient of petitions from natives on the other islands protesting against the issuance of paper money. In one petition it was stated that the Government ought to be able to take care of its own money, though in his opinion (Mr. H.'s) they had a hard job to do so during the last two years, but they had men that could and should take care of it. After such a meeting they would feel in the Legislature that they have men of intelligence as backers.

Mr. P. Isenberg complied with numerous requests by saying a few words. He endorsed all that had been said. He believed in calm and considerate action and was not in favor of any revolution. They can and will defeat this bill. (Cheers.) When he was last in San Francisco he was asked to yield to the demands of Mr. Spreckels, but he would not do so—he sold his sugar without the aid of Spreckels. (Cheers.) He believed in being firm and calm, and if they stood up for their rights they would have them.

Mr. J. O. Carter on being called upon said it was the duty of every man to express his opinion upon either one side or the other. He believed the bill to be an iniquitous bill. When he first read it, it struck him as a huge joke. The bill is too bad to amend, and the only way to deal with it is to set it aside entirely. He did not believe that any good would result from threatening. When a man threatens, he shows a weak hand. If they reasoned calmly, it would catch the ear of some one. He referred back several years, when Messrs. Aldridge & Bishop started a bank in this city. In those days the PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER (of which Mr. C. was sub-editor at the time) expressed the public opinion of the day. On Mr. Aldridge adopting a paper money policy, he said to Mr. Whitney, the editor: "You've got to endorse my views." Mr. Whitney said, "I won't." The moral from that is the public have only to say "I won't," and they will carry their point.

The following resolutions were then read and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, by an uncalled for and illegal coinage of one million dollars of silver money and its introduction into circulation, values have been disturbed and exchange sent up to a ruinous rate, and

Whereas a certain combination of capitalists are attempting to procure the passage of a certain corporation act in the Hawaiian Legislature which would give them extraordinary, exclusive, and dangerous powers in issuing paper money, in conducting a variety of business enterprises, and in controlling the administration of public affairs, be it

Resolved 1, That this public meeting of citizens and residents of Honolulu convened for the discussion of these matters, are of the opinion that it for the interest

of the Government and people of the Hawaiian Islands that gold coins of the United States of America with American or Hawaiian silver as a subsidiary coin only, should be the currency of the country.

2. There is no necessity for the introduction of a paper currency other than the treasury certificates of deposit now authorized by law, and paper currency tends to depreciate values, and to bring on financial panics.

3. That the proposed banking act has no public necessity or convenience in its favor, and is alike hostile to the Government and the people.

It was moved and carried that a committee be appointed to carry it around town for signature. Messrs. Davies, Geo. Lucas and J. Hyman were appointed a committee.

It was resolved to meet again at the call of the Chair.

A vote of thanks to Mr. J. T. Waterhouse, Sr., for the use of the hall was carried by acclamation, and also to the Chairman and Secretaries.

The meeting dispersed at 9:30 p. m.

MR. MEYER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

CONCLUDED.

Every leper receives per week either 21 lbs. of poi or 9 lbs. of rice with 1 lb. of sugar; or 7 lbs. of hard bread, or 7 lbs. of flour (Golden Gate). It is quite optional to him what to take—he receives whatever he elects; and if the poi were really spoiled he would not take it, nor is he forced to take it. There is, therefore, no such a thing as a "dictum of spoiled poi."

It is true the poi dealers had not been paid quite as promptly during the last few months; but this has not deterred them from bringing in poi whenever it could be brought. They themselves have never made any complaints on this score; why should Dr. Stallard? It is said they would not furnish any more poi, and that this was the reason, but it was not; some of the poi dealers attempted to make a combination, as they have tried to do many times, to obtain a higher price; they tried to obtain 75 cents per bundle instead of 50 cents. That they were not in fear for their pay is simply proven by this; when the supply of money arrived, they were instantly notified, but were very slow to come for their money.

Now a few words concerning nurses, doctors, and supplies of medicines or drugs.

For the poor friendless leper there are hospitals provided, where he is received at any time if his prejudice against hospitals allow him to have a wish to be admitted. Very often it becomes necessary to remove him there against his wishes.

In these hospitals they are taken care of; food is cooked and prepared for them. They receive extras, such as tea, fresh bread, or coffee and milk, when they have a longing for it. Those who approach the last stages are taken care of by hired native nurses, and it becomes often necessary to hire a nurse for one single person.

Considering the almost unspeakable loathsomeness of this disease, it must be admitted by impartial observers that natives here do quite as well as can possibly be expected of them, judging from their standard of feeling for one another.

Foreign trained nurses know more, and probably have a tenderer way of manipulation. On the whole, however, I believe, from my knowledge of natives, that they themselves prefer nurses of their own kindred; and I fear very much that a poor leper in the last stages of the disease would prefer to suffer than make his wants known to a foreigner.

Concerning the supply of drugs, I have very little to say; a doctor is appointed, and visits the settlement monthly. If there is any deficiency in this department, he is responsible for it.

In former years, before ever doctors resided at the settlement, a stock of simple medicines was kept on hand constantly, and if any of the lepers got sick these simple drugs were given out to them either by the Hospital Steward, the Superintendent, or kind Father Damien; and I assert that they got over all the troubles, disorders, or otherwise curable diseases, quite as well as they did after the advent of resident physicians, nor was the death rate any greater.

The Hospital Stewards of former years were foreigners; they directed and taught, to the best of their knowledge, the native nurses, and this department was probably a little more satisfactory than it is now; those stewards are dead—they have not been replaced, and the entire management of the sick is left to natives, with Father Damien's occasional kind assistance.

The great need of the leper settlement does not appear to me to consist in having resident doctors, they have been tried—the results are known to everybody.

In my opinion, a competent trained nurse or nurses are wanted, who understand the use of simple medicines to teach and supervise the medicines, and to go about amongst the lepers; and who are not afraid to enter their houses (as the doctors have been) to see for themselves that these simple medicines are correctly applied. An occasional visit from an able and experienced physician may be desirable.

In conclusion, I would say that the statements which I have made are facts, and they can be readily substantiated by any impartial and disinterested visitor or visitors who understand Hawaiians, their habits and language.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
R. W. MEYER.
Agent Board of Health.

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